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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GUATEM 00770 01 OF 02 242321Z
ACTION: CA=02

INFO LOG-00 AMAD-01 ARA-01 CIAE-00 OASY-00 DS-00 EUR-01
FBIE-00 INM-02 TEDE-00 ADS-00 NEA-01 NSAE-00 PPT-01
VO-06 SA-01 /016W

-----1D5987 242341Z /38

R 242317Z JAN 94
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1466
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMCONSUL BOMBAY
INFO ALCA COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMCONSUL CURACAO
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL
AMCONSUL MADRAS
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM
USINS WASHDC
USINSDISDIR NEW YORK NY
INSDISDIR HOUSTON

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
~~X~~ Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Date 2/22/02 Exemption _____

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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 GUATEMALA 00770

DEPT FOR CA/FPP
MEXICO FOR INS
USINS FOR HQINS, HQINT, HQINV/ASU, HQIAO
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GUATEM 00770 01 OF 02 242321Z

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: KFRD, CVIS, GT, IN

SUBJECT: MORE INDIANS CAUGHT IN GUATEMALA

REF: A) 93 GUATEMALA 12430 B) GUATEMALA 0234

1. SUMMARY: 13 MORE INDIANS WERE DETAINED ON 14 JAN. AT OCOS, NEAR GUATEMALA'S WESTERN BORDER WITH MEXICO, AND DEPORTED TO HONDURAS. THEY ARE PART OF A GROWING TREND OF USING SMALL BOATS TO TRAVEL FROM ONE CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRY TO ANOTHER SO AS TO AVOID LAND BORDER CONTROL POINTS. THIS MODE OF TRAVEL CAN BE DEADLY, AS DEMONSTRATED ON 27 DEC. 1993 WHEN 16 GUATEMALANS DROWNED WHILE TRYING TO AVOID THE MEXICAN BORDER. END SUMMARY.

2. REF B REPORTED THAT TEN UNDOCUMENTED INDIAN ALIENS WERE APPREHENDED BY GUATEMALAN AUTHORITIES ALONG GUATEMALA'S WESTERN BORDER WITH MEXICO ON JANUARY 5. THREE GUJARATIS OF THE PATEL SUB-CASTE AND SEVEN SIKHS FROM PUNJAB, ALONG WITH COLOMBIAN CLAUDIO RUPERTO CUZCO VASQUEZ AND COSTA RICAN LUIS ENRIQUE MIRANDA, WERE DETAINED BY THE GUATEMALAN BORDER PATROL AT 0800 ON 5 JAN. THEY WERE WAITING ON THE PACIFIC OCEAN BEACH AT CASERIO LOS FAROS, NEAR OCOS, SAN MARCOS, FOR A BOAT TO TAKE THEM TO MEXICO. THEY WERE DEPORTED TO HONDURAS, NOT TO EL SALVADOR AS ORIGINALLY REPORTED IN REF. B.

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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 GUATEM 00770 01 OF 02 242321Z

3. ANOTHER GROUP, WHICH INCLUDED 13 INDIANS, WAS DETAINED AT 0730 ON 14 JAN. ABOARD A RENTED MICROBUS ON THE HIGHWAY BETWEEN TECUN UMAN AND THE PORT OF OCOS AT LA CEIBA, ALDEA LIMONES, SAN MARCOS DEPARTMENT. THE INDIANS WERE: COLOBANT SEN OYILA, 35, TYRIA SEN, 37, PARMENDAR SEN, 22, D SEN, 36, PALLY SEN, 23, VICENT PATER, 22, KOTAN VAY, 19, NARAN VAY, 43, ENDER YIT, 24, SERIANT PARIC, 29, SAMIRI KANDY, 21, YAES PARDER, 30, AND GRAYS WORMO, 22. ALSO ABOARD THE MICROBUS WAS ECUADOREAN RAMIRO VASQUEZ, 21. ALL THE PASSENGERS HAD LIFE VESTS ON AND APPEARED TO BE HEADED TOWARD THE SAME BEACH WHERE THE 5 JAN. GROUP WAS CAUGHT. GUATEMALAN ALIEN SMUGGLER JORGE ANDRADE CARRETO WAS DRIVING. THE GROUP WAS TAKEN TO GUATEMALA CITY AND SHORTLY THEREAFTER DEPORTED UNOFFICIALLY TO HONDURAS NEAR AGUA CALIENTE. COMMENT: HONDURAN OFFICIALS WERE NOT NOTIFIED, AS IS COMMON PRACTICE IN THE REGION, SO USE THIS INFORMATION WITH DISCRETION. END COMMENT.

4. IN WHAT POST HAS NOTED AS AN INCREASING ALIEN SMUGGLING TREND, THE INDIANS TRAVELED FROM ONE CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRY TO ANOTHER BY SMALL BOAT, THUS AVOIDING THE HASSLES AND POSSIBLE DETENTION RISKS OF LAND TRAVEL. THE INDIAN GROUP DETAINED ON 5 JAN. ARRIVED IN THE NEW WORLD IN PANAMA ON KLM VIA AMSTERDAM. THEY TRAVELED FROM PANAMA TO HONDURAS, WHERE THEY STAYED ONE MONTH UNSUCCESSFULLY TRYING TO ENTER GUATEMALA BY LAND. THEY THEN TOOK ANOTHER SMALL BOAT FROM HONDURAS TO EL SALVADOR, WHERE THEY STAYED TWO MORE WEEKS BEFORE TAKING YET ANOTHER BOAT

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 GUATEM 00770 01 OF 02 242321Z

UNCLASSIFIED

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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GUATEM 00770 02 OF 02 242324Z
ACTION CA-02

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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 GUATEMALA 00770

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PAGE 02 GUATEM 00770 02 OF 02 242324Z

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SUBJECT: MORE INDIANS CAUGHT IN GUATEMALA

TO OCOS, GUATEMALA. THEY WERE APPREHENDED BY THE

GUATEMALAN BORDER PATROL WHILE THEY WERE WAITING AT THE BEACH AT OCOS FOR ANOTHER BOAT TO TAKE THEM TO MEXICO. WE SUSPECT THAT THE GROUP OF INDIANS DETAINED ON 13 JAN. WOULD HAVE A SIMILAR STORY TO TELL, SINCE THEY WERE OBVIOUSLY HEADED FOR THE BEACH.

5. A CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT (CI) TOLD AFU EARLIER THAT MEXICAN SMUGGLERS WERE RUNNING A REGULAR BOAT SERVICE FROM OCOS TO SALINAS, MEXICO. TWO MILITARY COMMISSIONERS AND SOME NATIONAL POLICE ARE REPORTEDLY INVOLVED. THE GUATEMALAN LAUNCHES ESMERALDA I, II, AND III TAKE THE ILLEGAL ALIENS OF ANY NATIONALITY THAT CAN PAY FROM THE BEACH AT OCOS TO A SMALL BOAT OFFSHORE. THE BOAT THEN TAKES THEM TO MEXICO, THUS AVOIDING MEXICAN IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS, WHO HAVE REPORTEDLY MADE THE REGULAR LAND CROSSING ACROSS THE SUCHIATE RIVER AT TECUN UMAN MUCH MORE DIFFICULT AND RISKY. HOWEVER, THE BOAT ROUTE CAN BE OUTRIGHT DEADLY, AS DEMONSTRATED BY THE SHIPWRECK ON 27 DEC. 1993 OF AN OVERLOADED SMALL BOAT CARRYING 21 GUATEMALANS AND TWO MEXICAN SMUGGLERS. THE BOAT FOUNDERED AT NIGHT, AND 16 GUATEMALANS DROWNED OFF THE MEXICAN FISHING VILLAGES OF EL ZAPOTAL, EL

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 GUATEM 00770 02 OF 02 242324Z
PALMARCITO, PALO BLANCO, AND SANTA VIRGINIA DEL SOL.
ONLY FIVE GUATEMALANS AND THE MEXICAN SMUGGLERS
SURVIVED.

6. COMMENT: THE FLOW OF INDIANS THROUGH GUATEMALA HAS INCREASED IN THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS, AS HAS THE USE OF SMALL BOATS TO HOP FROM ONE COUNTRY TO ANOTHER. UNFORTUNATELY, THE COG HAS NO RESOURCES TO DEPORT INDIANS BACK TO INDIA, AND CAN ONLY DUMP THEM ACROSS THE BORDER OF A NEIGHBORING COUNTRY. THEY WILL KEEP COMING UNTIL THEY SUCCESSFULLY MAKE IT TO MEXICO AND LATER THE U.S. OR DIE TRYING, AS HAPPENED TO THE HAPLESS GUATEMALANS. THE OBVIOUS SOLUTION, AS POST HAS ADVOCATED REPEATEDLY, IS FOR THE DEPARTMENT AND INS TO PUSH FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE USG-FUNDED THIRD COUNTRY DEPORTATION PROGRAM CURRENTLY IN PLACE IN MEXICO TO GUATEMALA AND OTHER MAJOR ILLEGAL ALIEN TRANSITTING COUNTRIES. THE FLOW OF ILLEGAL CHINESE HAS BEEN REDUCED BECAUSE CHINESE ALIENS WERE ACTUALLY DEPORTED LAST YEAR FROM GUATEMALA AND MEXICO. THE SAME MESSAGE NEEDS TO BE SENT TO INDIANS AND OTHERS. AS WELL AS SAVING LIVES, IT IS MUCH CHEAPER TO CATCH AND DEPORT THE ILLEGAL ALIENS FROM HERE THAN FROM THE U.S., AND IF THEY REACH MEXICO, THEY MAY NOT BE CAUGHT AGAIN. END COMMENT. MCAFEE

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